1862MNRAS..23...29H

Day of Obs.	Star's Name.	Mean R.A. 1862, Jan. 1.	Mean N.P.D. 1862, Jan. 1.
		h m s	° ′ ″
Aug. 14	Groomb. 1643	10 21 35·42	8 47 50·2
18	B.A.C. 4527	13 25 49·48	10 38 35·1
19	Oeltz. Arg. 13813	13 30 39·48	13 13 45·5
22	Groomb. 2129	14 28 33·63	21 18 31·1
25	Groomb. 2211	15 10 2·56	33 21 57·2
29	Piaz. xv. 148	15 33 28·78	54 52 20·2

The observations in general consisted of distinct readings of the hour-circle, and the declination circle corresponding to distinct transits and bisections of the Comet, and the comparison-stars, except on August 9, when the transits of the star and Comet were made with an unchanged position of the polar axis, the objects being in the field of the telescope together.

The results on August 5 and 23 are more doubtful than the rest through want of a comparison-star.

The observations to August 14, inclusive, were made by myself; after that time they were made by Mr. Quirling.

Observations of Comet II. 1862, taken with the Equatoreal of the Liverpool Observatory. By J. Hartnup, Esq.

1862.	G.M.T.	Comet's R.A.	Log. $\frac{p}{P}$	Comet's N.P.D.	Log. $\frac{q}{P}$	Stars of Comp. B.A.C.
	h m s	h m s		° ′ ″		
Aug. 18	8 11 55·9	12 53 13·87	+9·309	10 48 14·0	+8·2211	4527
18	8 57 3·3	12 54 25·25	+9·323	10 51 20·6	−8·9740	,,
18	9 42 8·7	12 55 36·51	+9·321	10 54 28·6	−9·3168	,,
21	9 57 5·7	14 18 44·38	+9·107	17 55 10·8	−9·3093	4909
21	10 37 31·9	14 19 17·06	+9·110	18 0 14·4	−9·3688	,,
23	8 11 41·9	14 49 11·09	+8·864	24 26 13·6	+8·1605	4949
23	8 26 47·7	14 49 19·24	+8·887	24 28 41·1	−7·7688	,,
23	8 41 54·3	14 49 26·93	+8·905	24 31 4·4	−9·3188	,,
28	9 12 11·0	15 31 41·35	+8·656	48 53 23·1	−9·6022	5122
28	9 32 12·7	15 31 45·58	+8·676	48 58 11·9	−9·6345	,,
28	9 52 14·6	15 31 50·10	+8·693	49 3 1·1	−9·6655	,,
Sept. 10	10 27 23·6	16 8 0·19	+8·514	108 46 30·4	−9·9433	6060

The observations are corrected for refraction. The corrections to be applied for parallax in time, and are represented by p and q. P is the equatoreal horizontal parallax.

Downloaded from http://mnras.oxfordjournals.org/ by guest on March 22, 2015

© Royal Astronomical Society • Provided by the NASA Astrophysics Data System

1862MNRAS..23...30K

The following are the assumed mean places of the stars of comparison for 1862, January 0:—

	R.A.	N.P.D.	Authority.
	h m s	° ′ ″	
B.A.C. 4527	13 25 49·25	10 38 35·39	British Association Catalogue.
,, 4909	14 45 7·31	17 27 30·68	,, ,, ,,
,, 4949	14 55 24·07	23 31 2·37	,, ,, ,,
,, 5122	15 25 58·19	48 41 38·95	,, ,, ,,
,, 6060	17 47 47·94	108 46 23·90	,, ,, ,,

Remarks.

Aug. 18. Nucleus stellar, small and well defined. Tail in large telescope fan-shaped, short, and very bright. In a good opera-glass the tail appeared about 8 degrees long.

23. In the large telescope, with powers 90, 120, and 400, the nucleus was elongated, well defined, small, and bright. In the finder (power 20) the nucleus appeared round, and resembled a star of the 5th magnitude, surrounded with faint nebulous light.

28. Nucleus not so bright as on the 23d, but still well defined and a little elongated. Light of comet more diffused.

Sept. 10. Comet found with an opera-glass. In the large telescope the light was much more diffused than on previous occasions.

Observations of Comet II., 1862. By G. Knott, Esq.

The late fine (and in some respects remarkable) Comet was first seen at this Observatory on August 18th. Unfortunately I was a good deal away from home during its apparition; and this circumstance, coupled with the unsettled state of the weather, prevented my observing it so closely as I should otherwise have done.

At the suggestion of the Rev. T. W. Webb, I measured, or carefully estimated, whenever opportunity offered, the position-angle of the curious fan or jet which streamed from the nucleus; and although I am not inclined to attach much weight to my results, I think they abundantly suffice to show remarkable variations in the direction of the fan, to the extent of more than 50°. The measures were made with a wire micrometer attached to my $7\frac{1}{3}$-inch Equatoreal, the power employed being 113; and in all cases, unless otherwise stated, the angle is that of a central chord of the jet.

I proceed to give a few extracts from my journal:—

"August 18th. My first view of the comet in the Equatoreal. The nucleus is bright and sharply defined; bears magnifying well. A curious ray or jet proceeds from it, having a position-angle of 280° or 285°.

© Royal Astronomical Society • Provided by the NASA Astrophysics Data System